

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Puss caterpillar

Megalopyge opercularis

The puss caterpillar, also known as the southern flannel moth larva, is one of the most venomous caterpillars in North America. Covered in long, silky hair that resembles a Persian cat, its soft appe...

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate

Family: Megalopygidae

Habitat: Deciduous forests and wooded urban areas

Diet: Herbivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 2-3 weeks (larval stage)

Weight: 0.5–1.5 grams

Scientific name: *Megalopyge opercularis*

Did you know?

- The pain from a puss caterpillar sting has been compared to a broken bone or blunt-force trauma, making it one of the most painful stings of any Nort...
- The puss caterpillar's sting can cause symptoms ranging from localized pain and swelling to nausea and difficulty breathing. Despite their dangerous ...

What I learned
